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THE WAKEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

PTA Bulletin

VOL I No. 2 OCTOBER 1953

SECOND PTA MEETING OF THE YEAR TO BE HELD OCTOBER 28th

"Back-to-School" Night

The second meeting for this year of the Wakefield PTA will be held in the school cafeteria at 8 o'clock on October 28th. Following a short business meeting, which will feature discussion and adoption of a budget for the current year, the remainder of the evening will be devoted to a "back-to-school" program, with parents following their children's schedules, beginning with first period in the home rooms. PTA President Glenn Stahl suggests that in preparation for the meeting, members of the organization study the proposed budget, which is set forth below.

WAKEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL PTA BUDGET FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 1953-1954

INCOME		
Donated by Dolly Madison PTA	$145.00	
New Members to date	571.00	
Additional Members	100.00	
	$816.00	
EXPENSES		
Dues (based on 1200 members)		
State @ 10¢ per member	$120.00	
National @ 5¢ per member	60.00	
No. Va. Dist. @ 1½¢ per member	18.00	
Arlington Country Council		
$4.00 first 100 members		
2.00 each add'l 100 members	26.00	
	224.00	$224.00
POSTAGE & MAILING OF BULLETINS		
Postal permits (2 @ $10.00)	$ 20.00	
Postage (5 bulletins @ $25.00)	125.00	
	145.00	$145.00
Paper & Supplies	$150.00	
Carry-over to Next School Year	100.00	
Contingencies	197.00	
	447.00	$447.00
TOTAL BUDGET.		$816.00

NOTE: For budget purposes, our income was based on a minimum of 1200 members. It should be understood that when this number is exceeded, an appropriate adjustment in expenses must be made to cover dues. It should be noted also that the contingency item includes $145.00 donated by Dolly Madison PTA. Exclusive of that donation, the contingency item amounts to $52.00 out of budgeted income.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES

By Chuck Johnson, Secretary,
Student Gov't Steering Cmte

Beginning last May, student officers of Dolly Madison and Thomas Jefferson have been meeting for the purpose of establishing a student government for Wakefield. Pete Arnston (TJ) was elected chairman of the group and Chuck Johnson (Madison) secretary. This Wakefield Student Government Steering Committee, has been presiding over student affairs and will continue to do so until the constitution has been ratified and permanent officers for the year installed.

This steering committee wrote the handbook, issued to each student in September, made plans for JRC activities, and selected a school insignia and nickname. The nickname chosen is "Wakefield Warriors," and an Indian warrior will depict the school spirit.

The process of choosing student government officers has already begun, with the election early in October of the following class officers (The president of each class automatically becomes a member of student government.):

	Seventh Grade
President:	Jerry Gerich
Vice-president:	David Evans
Sec-treasurer:	Janice Howdershell
	Eighth Grade
President:	Robert Gammon
Vice-president:	John Willhelm
Sec-treasurer:	Pat Wells
	Ninth Grade
President:	Ronnie Heinemann
Vice-president:	Dennis Hill
Sec-treasurer:	June Walton
	Tenth Grade
President:	Kenneth Darling
Vice-president:	Bob Hamilton
Sec-treasurer:	David Gunderson

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Congratulations to the staff's newest papa - - Mr. Robert Robinson, whose 7lb. boy was born October 16.

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HEALTH NEWS

A School Health Council is being organized which will be composed of a representative from each of the following: administrative staff, teaching staff, general education, science, home economics, health, physical education, art, custodial, cafeteria manager, guidance, visiting teacher, school nurse, a student and a parent from each of the four grades, and the Medical Director for Arlington Schools, Dr. Claire Christman, in an advisory capacity.

This group will be responsible for planning and promoting school health projects, to include provision for a healthful, safe school environment, a sound program of health education, and assistance with school health services.

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Mothers are reminded to write the specific cause of illness in their notes to the home room teachers explaining cause of absence. This is one of the ways you may help the members of the Health Committee, who otherwise must call you to obtain this information for the health statistics.

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Would you like to be prepared to care for yourself and your family in event of warfare or disaster? Call the Arlington Red Cross, JA 7-3010, and register for a home nursing course.

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Do you know how to give and take?
Give medicines, treatments, and bed baths?
Take temperatures, pulse, and respiration?
Join a home nursing class at the chapter house of the Arlington Red Cross, Arlington Blvd at N. Trenton. Morning and evening classes are offered. Call JA 7-3010.

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One Christmas play coming up! - - - Dickens' Christmas Carol, presented by the Wakefield Drama Club, under the direction of Miss Irene Eckmann.

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National Education Week - November 9 - 14

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PTA MEMBERSHIP NOW 1,100 PLUS

At the first executive committee meeting following the "Wakefield open house" on September 23, Mrs. James E. Hill, Membership Committee chairman, reported a total of 1,070 members already signed up, with a few still coming in. By October 15th the total had reached 1,103. The goal for this year has now been set at 2,000 members.

According to membership chairman Mrs. James Hill, a membership representative will again be on duty in each home room to collect dues

during the "Back-to-School" program on Oct. 28 (75¢ for an individual; $1 per family). Mrs. Hill feels Wakefield is to be congratulated on achieving such a good early enrollment in the PTA. "It is especially important," she says,"during Wakefield's first year to have a large, active PTA group who will work with school authorities. Also, a strong school PTA helps to strengthen county, State and national organizations. I feel sure that we will be able to reach our goal of 2,000."

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November 3 is Election Day -- Come to the polls - - and bring your neighbor.

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ANDERSON HOSPITAL BENEFIT TO BE HELD AT WAKEFIELD NOVEMBER 14th

The Anderson Orthopedic Hospital Women's Auxiliary will sponsor a "harvest jamboree" turkey supper in the Wakefield cafeteria on Saturday, November 14th, from 5 to 7:30, for the benefit of the hospital. The admission price is $2 for adults and $1 for children under 13. This admission includes both supper and square dancing, which will follow from 8 to 10:30.

Booths will be set up around the cafeteria, c country-store fashion, at which various articles, including some mysterious parcel-post packages mailed from different points in the United States, will be sold for the benefit of the hospital.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS TO BE TAKEN FOR THE P.T.A. MAGAZINE AT OCTOBER MEETING

The Chairman of the PTA Library Committee, Dr. F. E. Horhardt, announces the opening of a subscription drive for The P.T.A. Magazine. The price is $1.25 for 10 issues, and orders will be taken by committee members at tables in the lobby, just outside the cafeteria, on the night of the PTA meeting, October 28th.

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WAKEFIELD PTA CALENDAR FOR 1953-54

Objective: "Building a School Spirit at at Wakefield"

Oct. 28, 1953 - General Meeting - "Back to School Night" Parents will follow the entire program of their children.

Jan. 27, 1954 - General Meeting - "Building School Citizenship" - Productes will be on display in Gen Education rooms and in English rooms in senior high.

March 24, 1954 - General Meeting - "Building a School Health Program" Inter-Mural athletics.

May 26, 1954 - General Meeting - Election and installation of officers - General music program - Shop and art exhibits.

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Sharing the ride is still fashionable. Double up with other Wakefield parents for the meeting on the 28th.

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"GOOD FREINDS OF WAKEFIELD" DEPARTMENT

Beginning with the time of the bond issue, the growth of Wakefield has been helped throughout every phase by many persons, some of whom will always remain anonymous. As current "good deeds" come to light, they will be given recognition here - - Who knows, maybe others will be encouraged to do likewise!

First, a round of applause for H. J. Brown, Pontiac, who lent Wakefield the beautiful 1953 car for use in the 10th-grade driver-training course. Next year this will be replaced with a 1954 model, and so on.

Next, an orchid (figuratively) to Mr. J. E. Connaway, the Wakefield father who on PTA "opening night" brought his own amplifying equipment to supplement the school's public-address system.

We owe a special vote of thanks also to all the Wakefield students who so graciously and skilfully guided bewildered parents around the school the night of the first PTA meeting.

And many thanks - - in advance - - to a PTA mother, Mrs. Carl Wacaster, of Tot Town, the furniture and moving company located in the Westmont shopping center, who has offered to lend furniture for any plays produced by the Wakefield Drama Club.

All Good Friends of Wakefield!

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QUICKIE PREVIEWS

Wakefield will be right in step on Election Day, because while their parents are at the polls on Nov. 3, Wakefield students will be electing their student council.

November 11th, Armistice Day, will be observed at Wakefield with two assemblies, at which two American flags, one indoor and outdoor, will be presented to the school by the American Legion.

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DRIVER TRAINING POPULAR COURSE AT WAKEFIELD

One of the most interesting and popular courses in the Wakefield curriculum (from the standpoint of both parents and students) is the driver training course, available to 10th grade students under the auspices of the physical education department. The first 3 weeks were devoted to classroom instruction, covering applicable laws, rules of safe driving, driver courtesy, etc. At the conclusion of this part of the course, one of the members of the State Police Department gave the class the learner's permit exam (oral, written, and eye examination).

On October 12 the second phase of the course began. This includes practical instruction and demonstration, utilizing a conventional-shift, 4-door sedan, and will take the students through every step of driving instruction beginning with adjustment of rear-view mirror and seat and checking instruments, right on through to the advanced level of instruction. This phase of the course is conducted during study hall, with 3 students taking part at a time. As soon as individual students appear to be qualified, they will be permitted to take the State exam for the regular license. Parents can help in this part of the course by working on road practice. Also, it will be the responsibility of the parents to make arrangements for the students to go to the Division of Motor Vehicles for the regular driver's exam, as each student qualifies.

Additional driver training classes will be formed as soon as more teachers become qualified as instructors.

Mr. Sonen, under whose direction this course is being conducted, believes that this type of training will help to minimize the teen-age driving hazard, both by giving expert instruction and by emphasizing to the students the responsibilities that are coupled with the driving privilege.

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Is your child having those "mid-semester blues"? Details of plans for parent-teacher conferences will be announced in the near future.

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See you at the polls November 3!

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WAKEFIELD BUILDING PROGRESS

(Editor's note: Because we must go to press a week before you receive your copy of the bulletin, some of the news presented here as being in the planning stage will be an accomplished fact by the time you read this.)

Four new classrooms will be available for use this week. By October 26 Dr. Wilson expects to have all but 2 or 3 classes occupying their regular home rooms. The kitchen should be ready by the week-end of November 14, and (tentatively) present plans call for the serving of lunches in the cafeteria to begin on November 16th.

Other items scheduled for completion this week include: several practice rooms for instrumental music, storage closets, the school store, and a counter in the administration offices. Contractors have promised to have the public-address system, electric clocks, and bells in early operation.

The electric work which has been held up in one wing of the school is almost completed, so that, according to present plans, home economics and art rooms may be on display when the PTA meets on October 28th.

The heating plant is in operation, fortunately well in advance of cold weather.

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JRC NOW BEING ORGANIZED

On October 16th JRC parents played host to a group of 250 Wakefield 10th grade students at a party in the school cafeteria. Music for dancing was provided by the JRC record-player, and refreshments were served. An organization meeting was held this week to determine future plans for 10th grade JRC.

On the evening of October 23d, 8th and 9th grade parents will meet at the school and organizeda sponsoring group for their JRC. While they are meeting, the dance will be in progress in the cafeteria.

Enrollment fees will be $1 for a sponsoring family and 50¢ for each child. Regular JRC admission will be 25¢ apiece. JRC parties for the 8th and 9th grade group will be held every other Friday night, beginning Oct 23d. Transportation will be furnished, using school buses, over regular school bus routes.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ON INSTRUCTION ANNOUNCES FALL AND WINTER SCHEDULE

The Community Council on Instruction (formerly the Parents Council on Instruction) held its first meeting of the year on October 21st at Washington-Lee High School.

The program for the October meeting included a demonstration of how children learn to read. Other information about the reading instructional program in Arlington County public schools was also presented. Following this presentation, plans for topics to be studied during the year were formulated by the group.

Wakefield is represented at these meetings by the Chairman of the Curriculum Committee, Mrs. Alford Letzler. Other parents who may be interested are urged to attend.

Meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each month during the school year (omitting the December meeting because of the holidays), at 8 p.m., in the Little Theater at Washington-Lee High School. The Little Theater may be reached most easily by using the Quincy Street entrance to the school.

The next meeting will be on November 18th, and the following one on January 20th. Topics for discussion at these meetings will be announced at a later date. Watch for publicity in your local newspaper and plan to attend. You will find the sessions stimulating and enlightening.

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GRADE-LEVEL PTA MEETINGS SCHEDULED

Communication between parents and teachers becomes a sizeable problem in a large school like Wakefield. To meet this problem, four separate grade meetings are being planned, by the PTA Curriculum and Parent Education Committee, for the first week in December. There it should be easier than in the total membership meetings to exchange information and get questions answered. Each meeting will feature a panel discussion and question period. Under the general subject, "Patterns of Social Behavior Among Our Adolescents," each group will concern itself with those phases that are of most immediate concern to it. For example, some of the things to be discussed are: in the 7th grade group - behavior on buses and school dance plans; 8th grade - where do we draw the line between restrictions and independence; 9th grade - how do we develop consideration for others; 10th grade - family relationships and driving, dating and smoking.

Tentative plans for the grade-level meetings are:

Grade	Date	Composition of Panel	Moderator
7	Tues. Dec. 1	Two parents, a GE teacher, a girls' Phys Ed teacher, a moderator not connected with this school.	Mrs. Robert Rawls, experienced in Y work and teaching teenagers (JA 8-5277)
8	Thurs. Dec. 3	Two parents, a GE teacher, a boys' Phys Ed teacher, a moderator	Mrs. Harold Stone Civic leader, mother, 8th grader (OT 4-8078)
9	Wed. Dec. 2	A GE teacher, a guidance advisor, a parent moderator, two students	Mrs. Blaine Kimball, Editor, PTA Bulletin, mother, 9th grader. (JA 2-5081)

Grade	Date	Composition of Panel	Moderator
10	Mon. Nov. 30	A boys' Phys Ed teacher, an English teacher, 2 parents, 2 students, a moderator	Mr. Don Patterson, Chief, Elem. School Section, Federal Office of Education, father, 10th grader (JA-8-6026

You will want to attend, so circle the date on your calendar now. All meetings will be in the school cafeteria from 8 to 10 p.m. There will be plenty of time for questions from the floor, but if you have a subject you would especially like the panel to consider, you may notify the moderator in advance. (Phone numbers are shown above.)

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